UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/420
2 June 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

# IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 2 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the horour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 31 May 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, giving details of the aerial violations that have accompanied the fresh incursions into Iraq's territory by the Turkish armed forces and urging the United Nations to meet its responsibilities as laid down in the Charter and to halt the intimidation and aggression to which Iraq is constantly being subjected.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Identical letters dated 31 May 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Further to my letter of 26 May 1997 concerning fresh incursions into the territory of the Republic of Iraq by Turkish armed forces (S/1997/399, annex), I should like to inform you that the Turkish aerial violations have been continuing. The details are set forth hereunder.

1. Between 0923 and 1440 hours on 23 May 1997, Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with 16 sorties, carried out by eight two-aircraft formations. This aerial activity was centred on the Shaykhan, Amadiyah, Rawanduz, Irbil, Dokan and Pibu areas.

2. Between 0900 and 1455 hours on 24 May 1997, Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with eight sorties. This aerial activity was centred on the Amadiyah, Rawanduz North, Pibu, Batufah and Sharanish areas.

3. Between 1200 and 1220 hours on 25 May 1997, Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with two sorties. This aerial activity was centred on the Amadiyah, Zakho and Pibu areas.

4. Between 0815 and 1800 hours on 26 May 1997, Turkish fighter aircraft violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq with 10 sorties. This aerial activity was centred on the Amadiyah, Tall Afar, Zakho, Pibu and Aqrah areas.

I should like to take this opportunity to refer to the letter dated 25 May 1997 addressed to you by the Deputy Prime Minister (S/1997/393). In that letter he referred to Security Council resolutions concerning Iraq, in particular resolution 687 (1991), which affirms the commitment of all Member States to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq. On that basis, the Turkish incursion into northern Iraq should be considered as a violation of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and other Security Council resolutions concerning Iraq.

Nevertheless, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, you yourself in your capacity as President of the Security Council and the members of the Security Council have not yet taken any measures in regard to this aggression, apart from a brief statement issued by the Secretary-General that was not commensurate with the gravity of the Turkish action.

I should like to reaffirm here that the Security Council's failure to show any interest in these serious incidents poses many important questions with regard to the resolutions that the Council has adopted on Iraq. These resolutions have imposed a long series of harsh conditions and sanctions on Iraq, and raise legitimate queries as to just how serious the Security Council is with regard to the implementation of all provisions of its resolutions, and its double standards in dealing with those provisions.

While drawing the attention of yourselves and the members of the Security Council to this flagrant contradiction in the position adopted towards Iraq, and the obvious hostility to its sovereignty, rights and legitimate authority on the part of the States members of the Security Council, Iraq reserves its complete right to protect its sovereignty, territorial integrity and security.

In conveying to you the details of these Turkish violations, the Government of Iraq expresses its condemnation of such acts of military aggression. It does so because the practices of the Turkish forces, as represented by their repeated shelling of towns and villages in Iraq and their unlawful incursions into Iraqi territory, are in flagrant violation of Iraq's sovereignty and the inviability of its territory and airspace, just as they are incompatible with relations of good-neighbourliness, the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of international law and the 1926 Iraq-Turkey boundary agreement. These practices may also undermine stability in the region as a whole, which is suffering primarily from the anomalous situation created by the United States of America and its allies in northern Iraq.

As stated in my previous letter, the Turkish Government bears full international responsibility for the acts of aggression it commits inside Iraqi territory and for all their consequences, regardless of the alleged reasons it gives.

The Government of Iraq reserves its legitimate right under international law to determine an appropriate response to such brutal military aggression and to seek compensation for the damage caused by these Turkish breaches and violations of Iraq's territory and airspace and for the human suffering inflicted on Iraqi citizens by these acts of aggression. Through you, it renews its call to the Government of Turkey to reconsider its policy with respect to the situation in northern Iraq, to promote the collaboration of the two countries on the basis of considerations of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect for sovereignty and to eliminate the reasons for the persistence of a situation that jeopardizes the interests of both countries.

As, through you, I reiterate my country's call to its Turkish neighbour to respect Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity, I express the hope that the United Nations will meet its responsibilities as laid down in the Charter and that it will halt the intimidation and aggression to which my country is constantly being subjected.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

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**UNITED NATIONS** **S**

**Security Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/421
2 June 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 2 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued over the period 16 to 31 May 1997 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the countries in question with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace and damage caused, 16-31 May 1997

1. In the northern region there were no violations.

2. In the southern region 763 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Qurnah, Shanafiyah, Diwaniyah South, Artawi, Busayyah, Salman, Shatrah, Jalibah, Rumaythah, Lasaf, Suwayrah, Chabaish, Razzazah, Qal'at Sukkar, Rahhaliyah, Shu'aybah, Hamzah, Ali al-Sharqi, Rifa'i, Hayy East, Qal'at Salih, Ushbayjah, Aziziyah, Taqtaqanah, Jasan, Hillah, Suq al-Shuyukh, Ali al-Gharbi, Kut, Abu Sukhayr and Najaf.

3. On 18 occasions United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.

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UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

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GENERAL

A/52/164
S/1997/422
2 June 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Item 82 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 2 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the transfer of power in the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued on 22 May 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 82 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of
the Netherlands
to the United Nations

* A/52/50.

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ANNEX

(Original: English)

Statement on the transfer of power in the Democratic Republic of the Congo issued on 22 May 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union was encouraged by the fact that the change in Government in Kinshasa took place without widespread fighting. In this context it recalls the untiring diplomatic efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and African countries, in particular South Africa, as well as those of the European Union Special Envoy, to find a peaceful solution to the conflict. At the same time, it regrets the loss of life which occurred throughout the conflict.

The European Union expresses the hope that the transitional Government will be as broadly based as possible so as to encompass the political aspirations of all the people of the country. The European Union looks forward to the implementation of President Kabila's commitments to convene a constituent assembly within 60 days and to hold elections within two years. the Union restates its willingness to support the democratization process leading to free and fair elections, which should bring lasting peace, stability and prosperity for all the people of the country.

The transitional Government has the responsibility for promoting reconciliation between all the people of the former Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In this regard, respect for human rights and commitment to democracy will be essential.

The Union recalls that the new authorities are responsible for security throughout the country, including the protection and dignified treatment of refugees, large numbers of whom remain in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It is important that the humanitarian organizations have full and unrestricted access to them. The Union attaches importance to the implementation of Mr. Kabila's earlier commitments in this regard and urges him to ensure that there is full respect for international humanitarian law, and to ensure the safety of humanitarian aid workers.

The European Union regrets that the investigative mission of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights was prevented from visiting the country. It urges the new authorities to allow the United Nations to carry out its work in relation to human rights as a matter of urgency and to guarantee it unhindered access to all the regions it wishes to visit.

It is on this basis, and bearing in mind the huge problems of rehabilitation, as well as of economic and social reconstruction of the country, that the Union hopes to develop its relations with the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help its people pursue their legitimate aspirations.

A Presidency-led mission, including the Commission and the European Union Special Envoy, will convey the Union's views to the new authorities and, in the light of their visit, recommend appropriate next steps, including at the political level, to promote the European Union's objectives in the region.

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General Assembly
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GENERAL

A/52/165
S/1997/423
2 June 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Item 82 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 2 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on Sierra Leone issued on 28 May 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 82 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. H. BIEGMAN
Permanent Representative of
the Netherlands
to the United Nations

* A/52/50.

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Sierra Leone issued on 28 May 1997 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union deplores the current attempt to overthrow the democratically elected Government of Sierra Leone and strongly urges the restoration of democratic civilian government. The European Union is deeply concerned at the level of violence against both local and foreign communities.

The European Union expresses the hope that the peace process will be continued after constitutional order has been restored.

The associated countries of Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, and Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with the present statement.

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UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/914
S/1997/424
2 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 39
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS
IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL
PEACE AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Identical letters dated 2 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter dated 2 June 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Abdul Rahim Ghafoorzai, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

I would like to refer to documents S/PV.3765 and S/PV.3765 (Resumption 1) dated 14 and 15 April 1997 and the statement of the President of the Security Council dated 16 April 1997 (S/PRST/1997/20), on the situation in Afghanistan.

I would also like to draw your attention to documents S/1997/54 of 21 January 1997 and S/1997/315 of 15 April 1997, on the matter.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 39, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. A. G. Ravan FARHÂDI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Identical letters dated 2 June 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to bring the following, in reference to the latest military developments in Afghanistan, to your attention and through you to the urgent attention of the Security Council:

1. On the basis of an agreement concluded between the Taliban and the National Islamic Movement of Northern Afghanistan (hereinafter, Junbish) under General Abdul Malek, three northern provinces of Faryab, Jowzjan and Balkh (Mazar-i-Sharif) fell between 19 and 24 May 1997 to the new alliance. The Taliban, typical of their attitude, began breaching terms of the agreement in pursuit of implementing their main agenda, inter alia, armed violence directed at strengthening and consolidating their power structure by disarming Junbish and Hezb-i-Wahdat armed forces. The Taliban also conducted abductions, persecutions and house-to-house searches, confiscating private property such as radios, television sets, audio cassettes, video tapes, children's toys, etc.

2. As you know and as reported by the international news media, upon entering the provinces of Balkh (Mazar-i-Sharif), Jowzjan and Faryab, the Taliban, as in Kabul, Kandahar, Herat and other occupied areas, introduced and sought to implement their self-defined unique version of "Islamic Sharia" by closing girls' schools, banning women from work and imposing many other repressive restrictions dealing with the work status of women. Simultaneously, Pakistani military authorities airlifted around 5,000 militias - in the name of students from religious schools in Pakistan - increasing the number of Taliban men to a total of 10,000, armed with sophisticated weapons, in just three days. Supposedly highly confident, the Government of Pakistan then accorded official recognition to the Taliban rule in Afghanistan and sent an "Ambassador", strangely not to Kabul but to Mazar-i-Sharif.

3. Terrified and disgusted by the tyrannical behaviour of the Taliban, the civilian population of the northern provinces responded with a popular uprising joined by the Junbish, Hezb-i-Wahdat and other members of the Supreme Council for the Defense of Afghanistan (SCDA), in the fight against the Taliban (27 and 28 May 1997). As a result, thousands of Taliban mercenaries, including a number of their top officials, among them their top military commander in the northern provinces, Mullah Abdul Razzaq, their so-called Foreign Minister, Mullah Mohammad Ghaus, their so-called head of the Central Bank, Mullah Ehsanullah, together with the newly dispatched Pakistani so-called Ambassador, Aziz Khan, were taken as prisoners. It was later announced that General Abdul Malek allowed the so-called Pakistani Ambassador, who had claimed that the "broad-based" Government of Afghanistan was already formed, to return to Pakistan. The rest of the captured individuals, however, remain under the custody of the anti-Taliban alliance.

By regaining territories which temporarily came under the Taliban offensive in the provinces of Balkh (Mazar-i-Sharif), Jowzjan, Faryab, Samangan, Takhar

and Kunduz, the Salang Highway, the strategic towns of Jabal-us-Siraj, Gulbahar, Ghorband and Pul-i-Khumri and major parts of Charikar and Bagram, the forces of the SCDA have, by now completed their dismantlement of the Taliban armed occupying units.

Presently, the Islamic State of Afghanistan is administering a major part of the country, controlled by the Supreme Council for the Defense of Afghanistan.

4. I should particularly like to draw your attention, as well as the attention of the Security Council, to the involvement of Pakistani military personnel in the Taliban operations in the north. In addition to many Pakistani nationals captured in the north, so far as many as 68 armed Pakistani nationals, only in and around the town of Jabal-us-Siraj, have fallen prisoner to the forces of the SCDA.

Owing to the increased possibility of serious military reversal, there seems to be a temptation on the part of Pakistani military intelligence circles to intervene more openly in the Afghan conflict in support of the Taliban.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan, referring to Security Council resolution 1076 (1996) of 22 October 1996 and General Assembly resolution 51/195 B of 17 December 1996 - both calling for a halt to the involvement of foreign military personnel in the conflict in Afghanistan - requests the Security Council to keep a closer watch on the ongoing critical developments in Afghanistan and to take due measures to prevent a situation that would cause detrimental consequences to the peace and stability of the entire region.

The presence of Pakistani military personnel and the continued military interventions in the internal affairs of Afghanistan are grave and manifest violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of the recognized principles of international law. This situation deserves the immediate attention of the Security Council and shall be determined in accordance with article 39 of the Charter as an act of aggression.

I would like to quote Christopher Thomas' Times of London article dated 2 June 1997:

> "Like Russia and Britain before it, Pakistan has learnt that meddling in Afghanistan can mean humiliation and, potentially, disaster. The entire northern third of the country is hostile to Islamabad, and the more the northern forces continue their advance into Taliban-controlled territory, the greater will be the destabilizing consequences for Pakistan, already fragile and vulnerable from guns, drugs, corruption, ethnic killings and religious conflict. It is now trapped by a redundant foreign policy under which it recognizes a non-existent Government."

The Islamic State of Afghanistan, in this context, reserves its right to request reparations for damages and compensation for the war-wounded and the loss of lives caused by the continued Pakistani aggression.

The Islamic State of Afghanistan earnestly requests that the Head of the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan be assigned to visit and verify

the factual presence of Pakistani prisoners and submit a report to the Security Council. Any delay in this matter may be construed as a lack of interest in defending the rights of a Member State victimized by protracted aggression.

On the diplomatic front, the Government of Pakistan, in an attempt to extinguish the objecting voice denouncing its widely known interventions in the internal affairs of Afghanistan - which have already infuriated many countries - has proposed that the seat of Afghanistan at the United Nations be "vacated" (see S/PV.3765 (Resumption 1), p. 5). The "vacant seat" proposal is an artfully euphemistic wording for the practical expulsion of Afghanistan - a United Nations Member State since 1946, before Pakistan came into existence - desiring to detach it from the world body. No Member State has extended support to this outrageous Pakistani proposal.

5. The Islamic State of Afghanistan, taking into account the current situation in the country, reaffirms the following principles as major components of a peaceful solution to the problem:

(a) The need to put an end to the foreign interventions in the internal affairs of Afghanistan;

(b) The need to observe a nationwide ceasefire and to agree on a phased exchange of prisoners of war;

(c) The need for a negotiated political settlement through a genuine intra-Afghan dialogue and transfer of power;

(d) The need for the formation of a broad-based transitional representative Government, having, inter alia, the following tasks:

(i) To draft the constitution, electoral law and the law on political parties;

(ii) To convene a Grand National Assembly;

(iii) To establish afterwards a transitional Parliament from among the Grand Assembly members;

(iv) To prepare a plan for the collection of arms;

(v) To initiate a plan for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country as well as for the repatriation of the Afghan refugees.

While expressing its full readiness to cooperate with the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, the Islamic State of Afghanistan reiterates the desire that the international community bring about circumstances under which an early, comprehensive and durable return of peace and stability to war-torn Afghanistan is ensured.

(Signed) A. R. GHAFOORZAI
Foreign Minister
Islamic State of Afghanistan

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**UNITED NATIONS** **S**

**Security Council**

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GENERAL

S/1997/425
3 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 2 JUNE 1997 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter dated 2 June 1997 from Mr. Milan Milutinović, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, concerning the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

97-14702 (E) 030697

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Annex

Letter dated 2 June 1997 from the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia addressed to the President of the Security Council

As you know, by its resolution 1037 (1996) of 15 January 1996, the Security Council established the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) for the purpose of maintaining peace and security and providing assistance to parties in the implementation of the Basic Agreement on the Region of Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium, which, in accordance with the Agreement "shall govern the region during the transitional period in the interest of all persons resident in or returning to the Region". By the same resolution, UNTAES was given a comprehensive mandate consisting of a military and a civilian component. The military component of the mandate encompasses, inter alia, the demilitarization of the region, overseeing the voluntary and safe return of refugees and displaced persons and the maintenance of peace and order. The civilian component of the mandate encompasses the establishment of a temporary police force, the functioning of the civilian administration and public services, the return of refugees and displaced persons, the holding of elections, as well as other tasks under the Basic Agreement. UNTAES should also monitor whether the parties honour their obligations to respect the highest standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms, i.e., promote an atmosphere of confidence among the local population.

Under the Basic Agreement, the transitional period will last 12 months and may be extended to another period of the same duration if so requested by one of the parties. Since the Serb side has formally sent such a request to the Security Council, about which the Secretary-General informed the Security Council in his report of 28 August 1996 (S/1996/705), it is evident that the transitional period has been extended until 15 January 1998, pursuant to provisions of paragraph 1 of the Basic Agreement.

By paragraph 7 of its resolution 1079 (1996) of 15 November 1996, the Security Council decided to maintain the United Nations presence in the region until the end of the extended transitional period, as provided for in the Basic Agreement. By the same resolution, the UNTAES mandate was extended until 15 July 1997 and the Secretary-General was requested to provide to the Security Council, not later than 1 July 1997, his recommendations for the further United Nations presence for the six-month period, i.e. until the end of the transitional period.

In accordance with the above decisions, the Security Council should soon make a decision on the extension of the mandate of UNTAES. It is undoubtedly a major political decision that will be of extreme importance, not only to the full and successful implementation of the Basic Agreement, but also to the consolidation of peace and strengthening of security in the broader region. Therefore, we consider that the Security Council, as an organ with primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, will

continue to be engaged in the region with full responsibility, fully respecting the interests of all interested parties.

We are convinced that it is just now, in the period after the elections, that the actual transitional period begins, which is of crucial importance to unimpeded transition of power, and that it is therefore necessary to ensure the continued presence, i.e. the mandate, of UNTAES, in an unchanged form, until the end of the transitional period, that is, until 15 January 1998. The presence of United Nations forces during that period is an additional guarantee that all problems that may arise in the process of transition of power and authority to newly established organs will be overcome.

In addition, we profoundly believe that such a decision of the Security Council will be of outstanding and far-reaching importance and will directly contribute to preventing the Serbs from leaving the region, creating the conditions for a permanent stabilization of the situation, reducing distrust and preserving the multiethnic character of the region, constituting local government bodies in accordance with the results of the election, constituting the Joint Council of Municipalities, implementing the plans for economic reconstruction and rebuilding of the region with full engagement of the international community, defining the cultural and educational autonomy of the Serbs in accordance with European and international standards and resolving, in a lasting and viable manner, the problems of displaced Serbs from other parts of Croatia currently residing in the region.

The decision of the Security Council on the extension of the mandate of UNTAES until the expiration of the transitional period provides the best guarantee for successful and full implementation of the Basic Agreement and protection of the local population. At the same time, it is the best signal to one of the signatory parties to change its behaviour and instead of pressures and failure to honour its obligations and resolve actual problems, finally undertake concrete measures which would instil much-needed confidence among the local population in the region, ensure its survival and the region's multiethnic character. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia cannot consequently accept the proposal that after 15 July 1997 UNTAES tasks be assumed by a monitoring mission.

Although not a signatory party to the Basic Agreement, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been vitally interested in the Agreement's implementation so far and has made a major contribution, since in our view, it is the only possible and realistic basis for the consolidation of lasting peace and full normalization of the situation. In that respect, it expects, in addition to the parties directly involved, an active, constructive and timely engagement of the international community.

I would also like to underline that, despite the provision on the duration of the transitional period, the importance and relevant of the Basic Agreement cannot be limited in essence or by time. It is obvious that the signatories to the Agreement themselves had that in mind when they stated in paragraph 10 that after the expiration of the transitional period "the international community shall monitor and report on respect for human rights in the region on a long-term basis", which we rightly expect.

Finally, full and consistent implementation of the Basic Agreement is the best guarantor of lasting peace, comprehensive development and strengthening of cooperation in the broader region and one of the essential elements for full normalization of relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia.

In view of all above facts, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the Security Council to make a decision on the extension of the mandate of UNTAES, in an unchanged form, until the expiration of the transitional period as a logical step, which would be the best guarantee for the preservation of peace and security as well as full protection of the local Serbian population. It would essentially represent an unambiguous signal and support of the international community to all parties involved to carry out their activities in fully implementing the Basic Agreement and honour all obligations assumed unilaterally or otherwise.

I wish to express our gratitude also on this occasion to Mr. Jacques Paul Klein, United Nations Transitional Administrator, and all members of UNTAES for their engagement so far in their noble mission of peace.

(Signed) Milan MILUTINOVIĆ

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UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/426
3 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

# LETTER DATED 30 MAY 1997 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 7 April 1997 to the President of the Security Council (S/1997/307) by which I informed the members of the Council of the extension by a further six months of the Office of my Representative in Phnom Penh in keeping with the spirit and principles of the Paris Agreements.

I wish to inform you in this regard that, following consultations with the Government of Cambodia, I have decided to appoint Mr. Lakhan L. Mehrotra (India) as my Representative in Cambodia, succeeding Mr. Benny Widyono. He will continue to be assisted by one military adviser.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

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UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/427
3 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

# LETTER DATED 3 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 30 May 1997 (S/1997/426) concerning your decision to appoint Mr. Lakhan L. Mehrotra of India as your Representative in Cambodia has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the decision contained in your letter.

(Signed) Sergey LAVROV
President of the
Security Council

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97-14731 (E) 030697 040697

**UNITED NATIONS** **S**

**Security Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/428
3 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and in particular its resolution 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995,

Convinced of the need as a temporary measure to continue to provide for the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people until the fulfilment by Iraq of the relevant Security Council resolutions, including notably resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, allows the Council to take further action with regard to the prohibitions referred to in resolution 661 (1990) of 6 August 1990, in accordance with the provisions of those resolutions,

Determined to avoid any further deterioration of the current humanitarian situation,

Convinced also of the need for equitable distribution of humanitarian relief to all segments of the Iraqi population throughout the country,

Welcoming the report submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 11 of resolution 986 (1995) (S/1997/419), as well as the report submitted in accordance with paragraph 12 of resolution 986 (1995) (S/1997/417) by the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) of 6 August 1990,

Reaffirming the commitment of all Member States to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Decides that the provisions of resolution 986 (1995), except those contained in paragraphs 4, 11 and 12, shall remain in force for another period of 180 days beginning at 00.01 hours, Eastern Daylight Time, on 8 June 1997;

2. Further decides to conduct a thorough review of all aspects of the implementation of this resolution 90 days after the entry into force of paragraph 1 above and again prior to the end of the 180 day period, on receipt

of the reports referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 below, and expresses its intention, prior to the end of the 180 day period, to consider favourably renewal of the provisions of this resolution, provided that the reports referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 below indicate that those provisions are being satisfactorily implemented;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council 90 days after the date of entry into force of paragraph 1 above, and again prior to the end of the 180 day period, on the basis of observation by United Nations personnel in Iraq, and on the basis of consultations with the Government of Iraq, on whether Iraq has ensured the equitable distribution of medicine, health supplies, foodstuffs, and materials and supplies for essential civilian needs, financed in accordance with paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 986 (1995), including in his reports any observations he may have on the adequacy of the revenues to meet Iraq's humanitarian needs, and on Iraq's capacity to export sufficient quantities of petroleum and petroleum products to produce the sum referred to in paragraph 1 of resolution 986 (1995);

4. Requests the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990), in close coordination with the Secretary-General, to report to the Council 90 days after the date of entry into force of paragraph 1 above and again prior to the end of the 180 day period on the implementation of the arrangements in paragraphs 1, 2, 6, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 986 (1995);

5. Directs the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) of 6 August 1990 to process expeditiously contract applications submitted under the present resolution as soon as the Secretary-General has approved the new Plan submitted by the Government of Iraq, guaranteeing equitable distribution and including a description of the goods to be purchased with the revenues of the sale of petroleum and petroleum products authorized by the present resolution;

6. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

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**UNITED NATIONS**

# A S

**General Assembly**
**Security Council**

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GENERAL

A/52/168
S/1997/429
3 June 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Items 37, 53 and 148 of the
preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI OCCUPATION OF AND AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT
UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

## Letter dated 2 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a press communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its sixty-third session, held in Riyadh on 31 May 1997 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassem Bin Jabr Al Thani, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 37, 53 and 148 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nasser Bin Hamad AL-KHALIFA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/52/50.

ANNEX

Press communiqué issued on 31 May 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Gulf States

The Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council held its sixty-third regular session on Saturday, 25 Muharram A.H. 1418 (31 May 1997) at the headquarters of its secretariat in Riyadh, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassem Bin Jabr Al Thani, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar. The meeting was attended by:

His Excellency Mr. Rashid Bin Abdullah al-Nuaimi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates;

His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bahrain;

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Mr. Yousef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman; and

His Excellency Abd al-Aziz Dakhil al-Dakhil, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs of Kuwait.

His Excellency Sheikh Jamil Ibrahim al-Hegelan, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, also attended.

The Ministerial Council studied developments in the joint cooperation process and political and security situations and issues at regional and international levels since its sixty-second session, held in March 1997.

Iraq's compliance with the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait

The Ministerial Council discussed developments in Iraq's compliance with the Security Council resolutions relating to its aggression against Kuwait. The Ministerial Council reaffirmed its absolute and unwavering belief in Iraq's obligation to comply with all the relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular those pertaining to the release of Kuwaiti and third-country prisoners and detainees; cooperate fully with the Special Commission in its investigation of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction; return all public and private property to Kuwait; continue to comply fully with the compensation mechanism; and refrain from all hostile or provocative acts directed against Kuwait and neighbouring States, pursuant to resolution 949 (1994).

The Council expressed its satisfaction with the improvement in the living and health conditions of the fraternal Iraqi people and the alleviation of their suffering resulting from the implementation of the "oil for food" Security Council resolution 986 (1995).

The Ministerial Council reaffirmed the willingness of its member States to continue to provide absolute support for the efforts of the United Nations Special Commission in uncovering Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, and called upon the international community to do likewise. It expressed its appreciation of the sterling endeavours of Mr. Rolf Ekéus during his chairmanship of the Commission, and welcomed Mr. Butler, his replacement as Chairman, wishing him every success in his work.

The incursion into Iraqi territory by Turkish forces

Pursuant to the positions adopted by States members of the Council, founded on the obligation to preserve the independence, sovereignty and territorial unity and integrity of Iraq, the Council expressed its profound disquiet with respect to recent Turkish military operations and the incursion into northern Iraq, the repercussions of these developments on security and stability in the region and the threat they posed to international peace and security. The Ministerial Council called upon the Turkish Government to pull back its forces to a position outside Iraq's international borders and to refrain from intervening in the internal affairs of that country.

The issue of the occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran

(a) The issue of the occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates

The Ministerial Council studied developments in the matter of the occupation of the three islands of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates. The Council noted that the Iranian Government continued to implement measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands, carrying to extremes the policy of using force to impose the status quo. This represents a determination to proceed with its unjustified and provocative actions. The Council reiterated its deep regret at the continuing failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respond to the repeated sincere and serious invitations to seek a solution to this issue by peaceful means offered by the United Arab Emirates and regional and international organizations and groups. The Ministerial Council expressed its disapproval of the successive measures taken by Iran in the islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and its continuing concern as to the results of the Iranian Government's extremism in pursuing the policy of using force to impose the status quo in the three islands of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, in violation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates and in encroachment of the latter's rights in these islands. Peace and security in the region are threatened thereby, and the principles and precepts of international law and the Charters of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference completely disregarded, together with the principles of good-neighbourliness and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States of the region.

The Council reaffirmed the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over the three islands of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa and its absolute support for all the peaceful measures being taken to recover its sovereignty

over these islands. The Council reiterated its appeal to the Iranian Government to end its occupation of the three islands, suspend its policy of using force to impose the status quo, halt construction of all Iranian installations on the islands intended to alter the demographic structure and remove any existing installations, annul any unilateral decisions already imposed on the three islands and employ peaceful means to resolve the conflict over them in accordance with the principles and rules of international law, which would include accepting that the matter could be dealt with by the International Court of Justice.

(b) Relations with Iran

The Ministerial Council discussed recent developments in relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. On the basis of its firm position that it wishes to build stable relations with Iran based on good-neighbourliness, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs, and in the light of the outcome of the Iranian presidential elections, the Council expresses its hope that the coming period will witness a positive development in relations between States members of the Council and Iran and trusts that the Islamic Republic of Iran will take palpable steps along the proper path towards building confidence and establishing relations between the two sides, which will achieve the security, stability, welfare and prosperity of the peoples of the region.

The peace process in the Middle East

The Ministerial Council observed with great concern the continuing deadlock and deterioration of the peace process in the Middle East and the growing danger of its imminent breakdown as a result of the arbitrary policies and provocative practices pursued by the Israeli Government, with its insistence on building a new settlement in Jerusalem, expanding settlements in the occupied Arab territories and reneging on its commitments relating to the implementation of agreements signed with the Palestinian Authority. On the basis of its well-known, firm position, the Ministerial Council reaffirms its condemnation of the irresponsible policies and illegal practices of the Israeli Government and affirms that in order to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between the Arabs and Israel, Israel must adhere to the spirit and the letter of all the agreements that have been signed and accept as fully binding the authority of the Madrid peace mechanism, the principle of land for peace and the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978), to ensure the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, to enable the Palestinian people to exercise all its national rights, including the right to the establishment of an independent State in its own national territory with Jerusalem as its capital, and to ensure full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Syrian Arab Golan, southern Lebanon and western Bekaa.

The Council reiterated its call to the administration of the United States of America to make additional efforts and show effective leadership that reflects its firm commitment to achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region, thereby maintaining its role as sponsor of the peace process in the Middle East in accordance with the foundations, principles and guarantees agreed

at the Madrid Peace Conference on the Middle East, as well as with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Council also expressed its appreciation for the efforts of the Arab Republic of Egypt to salvage the peace process and to resume the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations, as well as for the efforts of the European Union with its ten-point peace plan to move the peace process forward out of the deadlock and acute crisis which it is experiencing.

The Council also affirmed the need for Israel to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to place all its nuclear installations under the international inspection regime of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Progress made in joint work

The Ministerial Council considered the decisions and recommendations of the Committee on Financial and Economic Cooperation, the Committee of Ministers of Communications, the Committee of Ministers for the Environment and the Committee of Ministers of Youth and Sports, together with the conclusions of the meeting of the Supreme Council for the follow-up of resolutions on joint defence and military cooperation aimed at strengthening cooperation among States members of the Council and at adopting the necessary recommendations and resolutions.

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**UNITED NATIONS** **S**

**Security Council**

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S/1997/430
3 June 1997
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ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 3 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 10 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to you (S/1997/300), and should like to inform you as follows:

1. The claims made in the Iraqi letter with regard to the seizure of an Iraqi fishing boat with five Iraqis on board is a complete fabrication. The truth is that on 22 February 1997 the Kuwaiti authorities arrested five Iraqis inside Kuwaiti territorial waters. After questioning, they were released, as the Red Cross was informed.

2. The claim that a Kuwaiti helicopter hovered over the Iraqi tug Hamdan is a further link in the chain of tendentious fabrications circulated by the Iraqi regime. In fact, the tug Hamdan is merely one of the pieces of wreckage left by the war between Iraq and Iran, and cannot be moved from its position. It should be noted that this position is inside Kuwaiti territorial waters, between latitude 29° 49' 04" N and longitude 48° 22' 00" E, one nautical mile from Bubiyan Island.

I hope these facts will induce the Iraqi regime to refrain from concocting and circulating such fabrications.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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97-14748 (E) 040697 040697

**UNITED NATIONS** **S**

**Security Council**

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S/1997/431
4 June 1997
ENGLISH
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LETTER DATED 4 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 3 June 1997 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning violations of Iraq's airspace committed by the United States U-2 spy plane on the pretext of carrying out an aerial survey for the Special Commission. The Minister urges that Iraqi aircraft should be used instead of foreign aircraft in the work of the Special Commission in order to exclude any possibility of such aircraft being used for purposes prejudicial to Iraq's sovereignty and security.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-14986 (E) 050697 050697

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Annex

Letter dated 3 June 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

We refer to our letter dated 20 March 1997 addressed to the President of the Security Council concerning the violation of Iraq's airspace by the United States U-2 spy plane on the pretext of carrying out an aerial survey for the Special Commission (S/1997/253, annex).

We should like to inform you that this aircraft, which takes off from Saudi territory, has continued its violations of Iraq's airspace in violation of the country's sovereignty and security. As at the end of April 1997 it had made 355 overflights, for a total flight time of 1,571 hours and 36 minutes, since its first overflight in August 1991.

The facts that have come to light since this aircraft was first brought into use, which are set forth in the above letter, and the ill repute the aircraft has acquired from its past espionage activities in various parts of the world make it incumbent upon the United Nations to re-examine the question of using an aircraft that is being employed by the United States of America in a coercive manner to violate Iraq's airspace and to spy on Iraq for purposes other than those of the Special Commission. The declared policy of this hostile country is to conspire to change the national political regime in Iraq, as has been confirmed in successive statements by United States officials and most recently in the remarks made on 27 May 1997 by Bruce O. Riedel, Special Adviser to the United States President and Senior Director for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs at the National Security Council. Such policies are, of course, totally incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as they relate to the sovereignty of all Member States and non-[intervention in their internal affairs.

We condemn these unjustified violations of our airspace and take this opportunity to reaffirm the request we have consistently made in the 120 letters we have addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on this matter, namely that Iraqi aircraft should be used instead of foreign aircraft in the work of the Special Commission in order to exclude any possibility of such aircraft being used for purposes prejudicial to Iraq's sovereignty and security.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

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UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1997/432
4 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

# REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE GROUP OF MILITARY OBSERVERS ATTACHED TO MINUGUA

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1094 (1997) of 20 January 1997, by which the Council decided to authorize for a three-month period the attachment to the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala (MINUGUA)* of a group of 155 military observers and requisite medical personnel for the purpose of verification of the Agreement on the Definitive Ceasefire signed at Oslo on 4 December 1996 by the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) (see S/1996/1045, annex).

2. By the same resolution, the Security Council requested me to keep the Council fully informed on the implementation of the resolution and to report on the conclusion of the military observer mission.

3. Under the concept of operations envisaged in my report of 17 December 1996 (see S/1996/1045, para. 11) and with the Council's concurrence (see S/1997/91 and S/1997/92), I appointed Brigadier-General José B. Rodriguez Rodriguez (Spain) as Chief Military Observer of the military observer group, under the overall authority of the Head of Mission.

4. Of the 155 authorized personnel, 132 military observers from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Norway, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela were deployed to the Mission area. In addition, 13 medical personnel from Austria, Germany and Singapore served in the Mission (see annex I).

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* Since renamed United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA).

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## II. VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

5. The verification requirements arising from the Agreement included verification of the parties' compliance with the ceasefire, separation and concentration of the respective forces and disarmament and demobilization of the former URNG combatants. The military observer group's related activities are described below.

### A. Ceasefire

6. The Agreement provided that the formal ceasefire would enter into force as of 0000 hours on D-day, that is, the date on which the United Nations military observer group, as the verification authority, was ready to assume its responsibilities. On 13 February 1997, I informed the Security Council (see S/1997/123) that the operation it had mandated could begin on 3 March 1997, following completion of the preparatory work for the deployment of the group and the establishment of the URNG assembly points. Until then, the parties maintained the informal ceasefire that they had observed since 19 March 1996.

7. On D-15 (16 February 1997), URNG provided information (numbers and names) on 3,570 personnel to be demobilized. It also provided an inventory of the weapons, explosives and mines in its possession and information on the location of remaining minefields. With a view to eliminating duplications and discrepancies in the lists of personnel, additional information was requested by and provided to the military observer group by URNG. The Guatemalan Army, for its part, provided the requisite list of units that were to be redeployed to their bases.

8. On D-10 (21 February 1997), members of the military observer group were deployed to the six verification centres (Finca Sacol, Finca Claudia, Finca Las Abejas, Tululché, Tzalbal and Mayalán) responsible for monitoring the eight URNG assembly points. In addition, two sector headquarters and a main headquarters were set up to provide command and control.

### B. Separation and concentration of forces

9. The separation of forces between the Guatemalan Army and URNG was carried out through the establishment of two concentric areas around each URNG assembly point. Army units were not permitted to enter an inner 6-kilometre-wide "security zone" and police units could only do so after coordinating their movements with the military observer group. In the outer 6-kilometre "coordination zones", both the Army and the police were required to coordinate their movements with the military observer group. In accordance with the Agreement, Army units were required to abandon the security zones by D+10, and units in the coordination zones had to be monitored.

10. The full schedule of Army units' movements was provided to the military observer group on D-10. As a gesture of goodwill, Army units vacated the security zones before D-day. This was duly verified by United Nations military observers.

11. As Army units left the security zones, URNG troops moved to the assembly points according to a plan presented to the military observer group on D+2 (5 March 1997). In order to facilitate control and coordination, as well as to foster confidence between the military observers and the personnel of URNG, the following agreements were concluded with URNG:

(a) United Nations military observers would meet the URNG columns three to four days before the planned day of their movement and would live with them until their arrival at the assembly points;

(b) The larger columns would be split into groups of not more than 200 former combatants and their dates of departure would be staggered in order to facilitate transportation, security and control;

(c) An advance party of URNG personnel would be dispatched to each assembly point three to four days before the arrival of the first column in order to provide security and to prepare for the arrival of their colleagues.

12. A total of 25 columns were organized. By D+21 (24 March 1997), all of them had completed their move to the assembly points.

13. It will be recalled that, under the ceasefire agreement, all URNG regular and irregular forces, as well as its command, policy, security, intelligence, logistics and medical units, were to be concentrated. However, since the total number of URNG personnel assembled in the eight camps did not exceed 2,928, questions arose with regard to the 642 who appeared to be missing from the 3,570 on whom information had been provided on D-15 (see para. 7 above). Following a detailed explanation of the discrepancy by URNG and a technical report by the military observer group, the number of personnel present in the camps was eventually deemed acceptable and the concentration was considered completed on 24 March 1997 (see annex II).

14. A Logistical Support Commission, coordinated by MINUGUA, with the participation of the two parties and representatives of the Organization of American States (OAS), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the European Union (EU), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) provided support to URNG personnel during their stay in the assembly points. A number of national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations were called upon to implement literacy, medical and dental care programmes, as well as vocational counselling.

15. The United Nations military observer group provided medical assistance and transportation to URNG members to and from medical facilities whenever cooperating agencies were unable to do so. Humanitarian support was also provided on occasion to members of local communities in the vicinity of the verification centres.

16. Logistical support for the United Nations military observers at both headquarters and the verification centres was coordinated through the military observer group and provided by MINUGUA administrative staff.

17. In order to assist in implementing the Agreement on the basis of the integration of URNG into the political life of the country, provisional identification cards were issued by the military observer teams to the 2,928 concentrated URNG members. In addition, identification cards were issued to an additional 1,258 URNG members who were not required to be concentrated as they did not belong to any of the categories mentioned in paragraph 13 above. The remainder of eligible URNG members who were not required to be concentrated will be documented by MINUGUA personnel following the repatriation of the military observer group. Samples of the identification cards issued by the military observer group were sent to the Ministry of the Interior of Guatemala.

18. As provided for under the Agreement, URNG members were permitted to leave the assembly points in order to receive medical care, hand over clandestine stores of arms and locate and clear minefields. Whenever this happened, they were accompanied and their activities monitored by United Nations military observers.

19. In order to ensure that non-authorized URNG personnel, government military units or police units were not present in the security and coordination zones, as well as to gain the confidence of the population, the military observer group established an intensive schedule of helicopter and foot patrols.

20. As envisaged by the Agreement, two United Nations military observers were attached to each of the Guatemalan Army units subject to verification throughout the 60-day period.

## C. Disarmament

21. As former combatants concentrated in the assembly points, their weapons, munitions, explosives, mines and related military equipment were registered and handed over to the United Nations military observers for storage in special containers and explosive dumps (see annexes III and IV). Each container was equipped with two locks, with one key held by the commander of the United Nations verification centre and the other by the URNG official in charge of the assembly point. In accordance with the Agreement, URNG members were allowed to retain their personal weapons until their final demobilization.

22. Transportation of URNG explosives was deemed to pose a significant risk owing to their unknown condition, the location of the caches, the lack of adequate communications and the inherent danger of ground transportation. To diminish those risks, a special agreement was concluded with the Government and URNG to the effect that all mines, grenades and other explosive devices or material would be destroyed *in situ*.

## D. Mine clearing

23. Although demining was not foreseen in the Agreement, URNG helped to identify and clear all its minefields, in particular that located on the Tajumulco Volcano (department of San Marcos). The Government and the United Nations military observer group provided the necessary support to the operation.

Upon its completion, on 18 April 1997, 378 mines and explosive devices had been lifted and destroyed.

24. While both parties have stated that the country is now free of minefields, the presence of unexploded ordnance (grenades, bombs, mortar rounds, etc.) left around the country in the wake of 36 years of internal conflict still poses a risk to the population in some areas.

## E. Demobilization

25. The demobilization of URNG was carried out according to the phased approach established in the Agreement. One third of the concentrated former combatants were demobilized every six days, beginning on D-43 (15 April 1997) and ending on D+60 (2 May 1997). On 2 May, a public ceremony was held at the verification centre at Sacol (department of Petén) with the participation of the two parties and representatives of the Governments and organizations that had contributed financially to the demobilization process. Demobilization certificates were issued to each former combatant upon leaving the assembly point.

26. Four shelters were set up at the former assembly point at Tululché I (department of Quiché) and the others at locations in the departments of Quetzaltenango, Retalhuleu and Alta Verapaz to house those URNG former combatants who could not return to their communities. These shelters provide lodging and the infrastructure necessary to carry out vocational training and other reintegration projects. A delay in the preparation of the shelters obliged some URNG personnel to remain at a former verification centre for almost two weeks.

27. Similarly, some demobilized combatants originating from the Ixcán Grande Cooperative (department of Quiché) were forced to return to the assembly points after their presence was rejected by members of their communities. The Logistical Support Commission has assumed the responsibility of providing support to these persons, who have now been relocated to the Tululché I shelter.

28. With the exception of Tululché I, all the verification centres and assembly points have now been dismantled. The equipment and materials will be used by the URNG foundation for the reintegration of former combatants for the completion of the shelters or will be distributed to the communities that had permitted the assembly points to be established on their grounds.

## F. Handover of weapons, munitions, explosives and equipment

29. On 14 May 1997, URNG weapons, munitions and equipment, as well as the lists of destroyed explosive devices, were delivered to the Ministry of the Interior of Guatemala. The corresponding handover certificate was signed by the Minister concerned, on behalf of the Government of Guatemala, and by the Chief Military Observer, on behalf of the military observer group, as the verification authority. This last act signalled the completion of the mandate of the military observer group.

## G. Violations

30. Six complaints of alleged violations of the accords were recorded by the military observer group. Of these, five were confirmed. Three of those violations were cases of unauthorized presence in the security and coordination zones, which were deemed to be unintentional and were resolved on the ground, and two were wilful but minor violations of the ban on political propaganda during the concentration of forces. The sixth complaint, which related to three armed attacks on an army post, was fully investigated. It was not possible, however, to determine the origin of the attacks.

## H. Redeployment and repatriation

31. Repatriation of the members of the United Nations military observer group began on 17 May 1997. A rear party remained at headquarters in the capital until 27 May, when the last United Nations military observers departed Guatemala.

# III. OBSERVATIONS

32. The exemplary manner in which the Agreement on the Definitive Ceasefire was implemented is above all a testimony to the determination of both the Government of Guatemala and URNG to put an end to the bitter armed conflict between them. The absence of any major incident during the entire process confirmed what had already been demonstrated by the flawless observance of the informal ceasefire since 19 March 1996, namely, that in addition to their leadership, the combatants on both sides were convinced that the time for military confrontation was over. This conviction is an invaluable asset as the country embarks on the complex process of post-conflict peace-building. The mutual confidence gained in the joint implementation of the ceasefire is no doubt an important political capital that both parties can draw on in the months to come as they face the challenges of reintegration and the task of implementing the other peace accords. The United Nations should remain committed to assisting them and Guatemalan society as a whole, as it did during the negotiations and the initial stage of the implementation phase of the peace process.

33. Credit for the success achieved in the ceasefire process is also due to the international community which, drawing in particular on the knowledge it had acquired during other peace processes, showed its own determination to put its resources and experience at the service of the demobilization of URNG combatants. In doing so, the representatives of the international community have shown an exceptional degree of cooperation with the parties and among themselves. I should like to acknowledge in particular the role of the European Union, USAID, OAS and the United Nations programmes and agencies that took the lead in providing logistical and other support to the demobilization process, as well as that of the many Governments that contributed to this concerted effort. I trust that this achievement can be emulated in future similar situations and that the implementation of other aspects of the Guatemala peace accords will benefit from this experience.

34. Finally, I should like to pay tribute to all the military and civilian personnel who served with distinction in the military observer group, under the command of its Chief Military Observer, Brigadier-General José B. Rodriguez Rodriguez, and to MINUGUA as a whole, under the leadership of the Head of Mission, Mr. Jean Arnault, for the successful completion of their tasks and the significant contribution they have made to the Guatemalan peace process.

## Annex I

### Composition and strength of the military observer group attached to MINUGUA

| Country | Military observers | Medical personnel |
|---|---|---|
| Argentina | 5 | |
| Australia | 1 | |
| Austria | | 3 |
| Brazil | 18 | |
| Canada | 15 | |
| Ecuador | 3 | |
| Germany | | 5 |
| Norway | 2 | |
| Russian Federation | 3 | |
| Singapore | | 5 |
| Spain | 42[a] | |
| Sweden | 2 | |
| Ukraine | 8 | |
| United States of America | 5 | |
| Uruguay | 20 | |
| Venezuela | 8 | |
| Total | 132 | 13 |
| Grand total | 145 | |

[a] Not including the Chief Military Observer.

## Annex II

## Demobilized personnel of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca

| Location | Organization | Number |
|---|---|---|
| Abejas | Organización Revolucionaria del Pueblo en Armes (ORPA) | 250 |
| Sacol | Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias (FAR) | 642 |
| Claudia I | FAR | 342 |
| Claudia II | ORPA/Partido Guatemalteco de los Trabajadores (PGT) | 224 |
| Mayalán | Ejercito Guerrero de los Pobres (EGP) | 428 |
| Tzalbal | EGP | 499 |
| Tululché I | EGP/PGT | 285 |
| Tululché II | EGP | 258 |
| Total | URNG | 2 928 |

## Annex III

### Weapons handed over to the United Nations military observer group by members of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca

| Type of equipment | Number |
|---|---|
| Weapons | |
| Small arms (includes AK-47s, other assault rifles and light machine-guns) | 1 665 |
| Crew-served weapons (includes RPGs, mortars and others) | 159 |
| Total | 1 824 |
| Munitions | |
| Small-calibre munitions (up to 12 mm) | 534 955 |
| Grenades (includes RPGs, mortars and others) | 147 |
| Total | 535 102 |

Annex IV

Mines, explosives and other munitions destroyed by members of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca and verified by the United Nations military observer group

| Type of device | Number |
|---|---|
| Mines | 1 390 |
| Munitions (includes aviation bombs, rockets and various kinds of grenades) | 934 |
| Explosives | 1 720 kg |
| Explosive cords | 380 m |
| Other explosive devices | 3 480 |

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 10, 11, 12, 19, 31, 33, 35, 39, 40, 45, 56, 58, 81, 82, 84, 85, 87, 96, 102, 109, 110 and 151
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION
REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND PROGRESS IN FASHIONING A REGION OF PEACE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
QUESTION OF CYPRUS
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

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QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC COOPERATION
INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL
RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM

Letter dated 7 May 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the texts of the following final declarations which were adopted by the Sovereign Heads of State and Government of the Organization of the Islamic Conference at the extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit, held in Islamabad on 23 March 1997, to coincide with the golden jubilee celebrations of the independence of Pakistan:

(a) Islamabad Declaration;

(b) Special Declaration on the cause of Palestine, Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Arab-Israeli conflict;

(c) Special Declaration on Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) Declaration on the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the independence of Pakistan.

I should be grateful if the present letter, together with its enclosures, could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 10, 11, 12, 19, 31, 33, 35, 39, 40, 45, 56, 58, 81, 82, 84, 85, 87, 96, 102, 109, 110 and 151, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ahmad KAMAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex I

ISLAMABAD DECLARATION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT

ISLAMABAD, ISLAMC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN
14 DHUL QI'DAH 1417H (23 MARCH 1997)

We, the Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of OIC States, assembled in Islamabad for the Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference:

*Guided* by the noble injunctions of Islam and imbued by the Quranic verse - "Hold firm to the rope of Allah collectively and create no dissensions" and "The believers are naught else than brothers; Therefore make peace between your brethren and fear Allah that happily ye may attain mercy."

*Reaffirming* our resolve to fulfill our solemn pledges contained in the Makkah Al Mukarramah Declaration as well as the Declarations adopted by all previous Islamic Summit Conferences;

*Determined* to strengthening Islamic solidarity and promoting cooperation among the OIC Member States for the collective well-being of all Islamic nations and peoples in conformity with the principles and objectives of the OIC Charter;

*Cognizant* of the processes of profound transformation in the global political, security, economic and commercial environment as mankind stands on the threshold of the new millennium;

*Emphasizing* the need for forging a common vision of mankind's peace, progress and prosperity and ushering a new era of cooperation among nations to build a global society, based on shared values and founded on principles of equity, justice, law and respect for principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs of states.

*Desirous* of promoting harmony, tolerance and understanding among all peoples by consciously eschewing exclusivity, domination, religious, racial or cultural prejudice and extremism.

*Convinced* that over 1.2 billion Muslims, across five continents, endowed by the Almighty Allah with tremendous spiritual, human and material resources, are destined to realize for themselves a glorious destiny;

In pursuance thereof we hereby solemnly declare that we shall:

1 - **Broaden** and deepen cooperation among OIC Member States in all spheres, augment unity and solidarity amongst us, harness our

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resources both human and material for the collective good of our societies and peoples.

2- **Affirm** that a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242, 338 and 425 and the principle of "land for peace", which guarantee Israel's total withdrawal from all Occupied Palestinian and Arab territories to the lines of 4 June, 1967 including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan as well as occupied South Lebanon and Western Bekaa, occupied since 14 March 1978 and call upon Israel to reaffirm its adherence to the commitments, agreements and undertakings given by it during the negotiations and to resume the talks on the Syrian track from the point at which they stopped as well as enable the Palestinian people to regain their inalienable and imprescriptible national rights, including their rights to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their independent State on their national soil, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

3- **Reaffirm** that Al-Quds Al--Sharif forms an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 and is subject to whatever is applicable to all the other occupied territories, call on the international community to compel Israel to abide by all international resolutions on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to refrain from all measures, practices and decisions aimed at Judaizing the city, intensifying Jewish settlements therein and expelling its Arab Palestinian inhabitants; and to desist from the desecration of Islamic shrines, including aggression against Al-Aqsa Al-Sharif and its threatened destruction, call for uniting all efforts to ensure the return of the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to its legitimate owners as capital of the State of Palestine and so as to guarantee for peace and security in the region.

4- **Uphold** the fundamental human rights of the people of Kashmir and the exercise of the right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions and condemn the massive violations of their human rights; and reaffirm that any political process/election under foreign occupation cannot be a substitute to the exercise of the right of self-determination by the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

5- **Affirm** that a substantive dialogue is essential to resolve the Kashmir dispute which is the basic cause of tension between India and Pakistan and support the efforts of the Government of Pakistan to achieve a just and peaceful solution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and call upon the government of India to respond positively.

6- **Reaffirm** the need to preserve the national unity, sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and Islamic character of Afghanistan and in this respect emphasize the principles of non-intervention and

non-interference and call upon all States to end immediately the supply of arms and ammunition to all Afghan parties.

7- **Reiterate** the need for early political reconciliation in Afghanistan and support the efforts of OIC and United Nations in this regard. **Reaffirm** that it is also imperative that the international community provides adequate assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction in Afghanistan including for the repatriation of Afghan refugees.

8- **Reaffirm** that it is imperative to preserve the unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Bosnia-Herzegovina in accordance with the provisions of the Dayton Agreements and call for providing all appropriate assistance to the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina to secure the full implementation of these agreements.

9- **Affirm** the importance of the preservation of the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of Albania and call for generous economic and humanitarian assistance to Albania.

10- **Strongly** oppose the aggression against Azarbaijan and call for the restitution of its territories under occupation.

11- **Reaffirm** solidarity with the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus in upholding their legitimate rights.

12- **Emphasize** the right of every member state to defend its national security, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

13- **Uphold** the right of peoples under colonial or alien domination or foreign occupation to self-determination; seek the liberation of all occupied territories and reach equitable and just solutions to all problems and disputes in the framework of respect for international legitimacy.

14- **Renew** our determination to promote and uphold the rights of Muslim communities and minorities in non-member states on the basis of respect for their human rights and in accordance with the UN Charter.

15- **Decide** to establish between us relations of permanent consultation and coordinate our efforts on the international scene, within the framework of the UN Charter, particularly its provisions relating to collective security of member states.

16- **Uphold** the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of states in accordance with the provisions of the UN Charter.

17- **Resolve** to strengthen joint Islamic action in the humanitarian field to alleviate the suffering of refugees and displaced persons resulting from

armed conflicts as well as those resulting from natural and other disasters.

18- **Further** promote the joint efforts in prevention of arms supply to zones of conflict as well as trafficking in illegal drugs.

19- **Agree** to cooperate in all efforts to eradicate the phenomenon of terrorism which constitutes a violation of the teachings of the glorious Islamic religion which enjoins compassion and moderation, as reflected in the OIC Code of Conduct to combat international terrorism, without prejudice to the legitimate struggle of peoples against foreign occupation and for realizing their right to self-determination.

20- **Strengthen** cooperation in the economic and commercial fields by encouraging and facilitating greater interaction among the private sector, progressively eliminating all obstacles to the development of intra-Islamic trade including reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers, promote greater flow of investments, transfer of technology, undertake joint industrial projects, improve transportation and communication networks among the ports and cities of the Islamic World by land, air and sea, as appropriate, accord priority to the developmental needs of the African continent especially Sub-Saharan countries, endeavour to establish an Islamic common market and promote greater interaction among regional economic groupings in the Islamic World.

21- **Commit** ourselves to advance scientific and technological cooperation by harnessing our human and material resources to create Islamic institutions of higher learning throughout the Islamic world and by sharing expertise through all other means.

22- **Support** intensification of cooperation among member states through the OIC Standing Committees on Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), Science and Technology (COMSTECH), and Information and Culture (COMIAC) as well as through OIC and its subsidiary, specialized and affiliated bodies.

23- **Agree** to concert our policies and efforts for preserving and promoting the accomplishments, values and traditions of the Islamic civilization and inculcating in our younger generation high moral and ethical values and a sense of justifiable pride in Islam and Islamic culture.

24- **Stress** the need to accord priority to the development of human resources in the Muslim world with particular emphasis on the case of children, youth and families.

25- **Resolve** to project the true essence of Islam universally especially its humane message of tolerance, justice, understanding, moderation, respect for human rights and dignity of human person and cooperate

with peoples of the other religious faiths to build a better and more peaceful world free from strife, poverty, injustice and exploitation.

26- **Renew** our determination to cooperate with the international community in promoting a world free of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and seeking effective solutions to common problems and contributing to ushering in new era of peace, security, stability and progress for mankind.

II. We hereby entrust the OIC Secretary General with the follow up of the implementation of this Declaration.

**Issued at Islamabad**
**Islamic Republic of Pakistan**
**23 March 1997**
**14, Dhul Qidah, 1417**

Annex II

BISMILLAH AR RAHMAN AR RAHIM

# SPECIAL DECLARATION ON THE CAUSE OF PALESTINE, AL-QUDS AL-SHARIF AND THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT ADOPTED BY THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT ISLAMABAD, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN 14 DHUL QI'DAH 1417H (23 MARCH 1997)

We, the Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, assembled in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan on Sunday 13 Dhul Qi'dah 1417H, corresponding to 23 March 1997, for the Extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit, having reviewed the serious situation prevailing in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine and which constitutes the central cause of the Islamic Ummah; hereby:

1. **Affirm** our support of the Middle East peace process and the implementation of all agreements signed within its framework between the concerned parties as well as all commitments and pledges made in accordance with the basis and terms of the Madrid Conference and the United Nations resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 242, 338 and 425, and the "land for peace" principle which guarantees Israel's total withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories to the lines of 4 June 1967 including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan as well as South Lebanon and the Western Bekaa occupied since 14 March 1978, and call upon Israel to reaffirm its adherence to its commitments given during the negotiations and resume them on the Syrian track from the point at which they stopped, as well as call for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their independent State on their national soil, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

2. **Confirm** that Al-Quds Al-Sharif is an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 subject to whatever is applicable to the rest of the occupied Palestinian territories. Demand the implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council on Al-Quds Al-Sharif, especially resolutions 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 271 (1969), 465 (1980), 476 (1980), 478 (1980) and 1073 (1996), and General Assembly resolution 223/51 (1997). Call on the United Nations to take the necessary measures to compel Israel to immediately halt its confiscation of Palestinian territory and the construction of new settlements especially in Jabal Aboghoneim in South East Al-Quds, and not to effect any geographic or demographic changes in the City of Al-Quds during the interim phase, and to desist from taking any action or measure which may have any implication on the negotiations on the final status of the City.

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3 Affirm our continued resolve to strengthen our solidarity with the Palestinian people as well as to support the positions of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the National Authority in the negotiations aimed at realizing total Israeli withdrawal from all the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, establishing its authority over all Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and finding just and durable solutions to all issues, foremost of which is the issue of Al-Quds Al- Sharif, the refugees, the settlements, the borders and water in accordance with resolutions of the international legality.

4 Commend the continued efforts of His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco, Chairman of Al-Quds Committee and Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, aimed at promoting the steadfastness of the citizens of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif in confrontingt the challenges facing them, and restoring the City to its legitimate owners.

5 Strongly condemn Israel's persistence in its settlement expansionist policies in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the rest of the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories. Consider these policies and measures to be inconsistent with all international treaties, conventions and resolutions, particularly the relevant Security Council resolutions and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and constitute a serious threat to the peace process. Also invite the international community to compel Israel to fully implement all the agreements concluded in the framework of the peace process in accordance to their timetable and to lift the blockade imposed on the City of Al-Quds and to stop implementing all Israeli decisions, measures and practices related to Jewish settlements, land confiscation, destruction of houses, withdrawal of the identity cards of the citizens of Al-Quds, excavation works around the Holy Quds Mosque and the desecration of Islamic and Christian holy shrines.

6 Urge Member States to review relations with Israel and make them contingent on the progress achieved in the peace process, and on the extent to which Israel complies with UN resolutions and with the agreements, commitments and obligations reached by the parties concerned by the peace process.

Annex III

**Bismillah Ar Rahman Ar Rahim**

# SPECIAL DECLARATION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR

**ISLAMABAD, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN**
**14 DHUL QI'DAH 1417H (23 MARCH 1997)**

We the Sovereigns, Heads of States and Governments of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, gathered in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan for the Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Summit Conference on 14 Dhul Qi'dah 1417H (23 March, 1997).

**Deeply** concerned over the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, especially the suffering of the Kashmiri people and the consequent tensions in the region.

**Reaffirming** all OIC Summit and Ministerial resolutions on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

**Declare**:

1. Our commitment to promote a just and peaceful solution to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the United Nations resolutions;

2. Our support to the fundamental human rights of the Kashmiri people including their right of self-determination;

3. Our condemnation of the oppression and massive violations of the human rights of the Kashmiri people;

4. Our support for the efforts of the government of Pakistan to resolve through a substantive and meaningful dialogue the Jammu and Kashmir dispute which is the basic cause of the tensions between India and Pakistan

**Islamabad: 23 March, 1997**
**14 Dhul Qi'dah 1417H**

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Annex IV

**Bismillah Ar Rahman Ar Rahim**

# DECLARATION ON COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY OF PAKISTAN ADOPTED BY THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT ISLAMABAD, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN 18 DHUL QI'DAH 14 17H (23 MARCH 1997)

We the Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, assembled in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on 14 Dhul Qi'dah 1417H (23 March 1997) for the Extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit Conference to commemorate the Fiftieth Independence

**Saluting** the resolute struggle of the people of Pakistan under the sagacious leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah to establish for themselves an Islamic State,

**Paying** homage to the memory of the countless heroes who accepted martyrdom to pave the way for the creation of this great Islamic country,

**Hailing** the impressive strides made by Pakistan in developing a strong and prosperous Islamic State committed to the welfare of its people and to the well-being of Muslims all over the world,

**Cognizant** of the historic contribution made by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in defense of all just Islamic causes and its continuing steadfast support to the peoples of Palestine, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kashmir, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus

**Recognizing** the important role played by Pakistan in the strengthening of Islamic unity, solidarity and the flourishing of Inter-Islamic cooperation in various domains

**Rejoicing** with the people of Pakistan on the Fiftieth Anniversary of their Independence

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**Hereby**

i) **Felicitate** the Government and the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the Fiftieth Anniversary of their independence and wish them peace and ever-increasing prosperity

ii) **Affirm** our complete solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in its efforts to safeguard its sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity as well as achieve economic and social development

iii) **Reaffirm** our support for the peaceful resolution of the Kashmir issue in accordance with UN resolutions

**ISLAMABAD, 14 DHUL QI'DAH 1417H**
**23 MARCH 1997**

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**UNITED NATIONS** **S**

**Security Council**

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S/1997/434
5 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 5 JUNE 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw to your attention the conclusions of the Ministerial Meeting of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council, which met at Sintra, Portugal, on 30 May 1997 (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) John WESTON

97-15048 (E) 060697 090697

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Annex

**OFFICE OF
THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE**

**Political Declaration from Ministerial Meeting
of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council
Sintra, 30 May, 1997**

1. The Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council met in Sintra 30 May 1997, at Foreign Ministerial level, to review progress in the implementation of the Peace Agreement for Bosnia and Herzegovina in light of the conclusions of its meeting in Paris 14 November 1996, and the guidelines from the Peace Implementation Council meeting in London 4-5 December 1996.

2. The Steering Board unequivocally reaffirmed its support and commitment to full implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

3. After 44 months of bitter and brutal war, Bosnia and Herzegovina has now had 18 months of emerging peace. Significant progress has been made during 1996 and the first part of 1997 in realising the goals of the Peace Agreement. However, major problems and challenges remain.

4. In London, the countries of the PIC reaffirmed their willingness to help and assist with the development of Bosnia and Herzegovina, but on the clear condition that all the authorities of the country fulfilled their own binding commitments to move the peace process forward.

5. Having reviewed developments since then, the Steering Board unanimously agreed that all the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina are failing to live up fully to their obligations under the Peace Agreement, and that this is unacceptable.

6. The Steering Board wishes to make it clear to the Presidency, the Council of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as to the Governments and Parliaments of the Federation and the Republika Srpska, that it demands a significant acceleration in their work towards implementing the Peace Agreement.

7. In particular, the Steering Board urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its representatives to stop blaming each other, or the international community, for the problems they encounter, and to work together constructively and in a spirit of reconciliation for their common good.

8. The main responsibility for the future of the country rests with the elected and constitutional representatives of the country. The help they will receive from the international community will be dependent upon the commitment they demonstrate to the Peace Agreement.

*Security Co-operation and Arms Control*

9. The presence of IFOR and SFOR has brought security to the country and to the region. As the international military presence is gradually scaled down, attention must increasingly focus on long-term security arrangements, both within Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the wider region.

10. The Steering Board confirmed its long-term commitment to the peace process and underlined that the international community will not tolerate a resumption of hostilities by anyone in the country in the future.

11. Security co-operation inside the country is an essential element of security co-operation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the international community. The Steering Board urged the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina immediately to make operational the Standing Committee on Military Matters. This would facilitate dialogue with the international community on security arrangements within the broader European security structure, for the years to come.

12. Substantial progress has been made in implementing the two stabilisation agreements concluded under the auspices of the OSCE. The Steering Board calls on the parties to work with the OSCE to support full implementation of the Confidence and Security Building Measures, including the Open Skies trial and the Military Doctrine Seminar.

13. Although more than 1,800 heavy arms have been reduced under the arms control agreement, more than double that amount must be reduced this year. The Steering Board calls on all parties to redouble their efforts to this effect.

14. The Steering Board noted the Entities' less than full compliance with the agreement. This is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The Steering Board is greatly concerned by the failure of Republika Srpska fully to implement its commitments to reduction, as well as by the failure of the Federation to produce the required plan for this purpose.

15. The Steering Board remains concerned about the level of armaments and military spending in the country and in the region. High levels of military and military-related spending in the region, including both the Federation and Republika Srpska, impose a heavy burden on the country and divert financial means from economic reconstruction and essential social spending, such as health and education. The Steering Board calls, and will press, for a significant reduction in military expenditure.

16. The Steering Board is deeply concerned that the authorities have yet to provide the Bosnia and Herzegovina De-mining Commission with material and financial support. It should be provided immediately so that the Commission can start to tackle the extensive de-mining task ahead.

*A United Country in a Region of Co-operation*

17. Bosnia and Herzegovina will remain as a united and sovereign country, consisting of two multi-ethnic Entities. The international community will not tolerate tendencies, in either of the Entities, to develop patterns of co-operation with neighbouring countries which are inconsistent with the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

18. The Steering Board underlined that the international community will not tolerate any attempts at partition, de facto or de jure, by anyone.

19. The Constitution allows for special parallel relationships between the Entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and neighbouring countries. Agreements establishing such relationships are important for facilitating human and other contacts, as well as for fostering co-operation and integration in the region.

20. Agreements with both the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia should be rapidly aligned with the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Steering Board noted the commitment of the authorities of the Federation and the Republika Srpska, as well as of the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to do so under the guidance and following the legal advice of the High Representative.

21. The Steering Board took note of the regional approach of the European Union, which offers the prospect of bilateral, contractual relations with the EU to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia, and is also conditional on the establishment of co-operative relations between the countries themselves that are compatible with the Peace Agreement.

22. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Herzegovina must fulfil their commitments immediately to establish unconditional, full diplomatic relations and open embassies in Sarajevo and Belgrade.

*Full Implementation of the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina*

23. Significant progress has been made in the setting up and initial operation of the common state institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Steering Board is concerned, however, that this has only been possible due to the efforts of the High Representative and his Office.

24. It is imperative that the Presidency, the Council of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly meet regularly, that its members put an end to mutual accusations and that they move forward on the key issues of concern to the citizens of their country.

25. Unilateral actions, such as maintaining administrative or other bodies that are unconstitutional, will not be tolerated. This applies to existing institutions of the former Herceg Bosna as well as of the former Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

26. It is of great significance that the external representation of the country, as well as its flags and symbols, are truly representative of the new constitutional order.

27. Accordingly, the Steering Board expects the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina to appoint or confirm the Ambassadors of Bosnia and Herzegovina by 1 August 1997 at the latest. It requests the High Representative to assist in this process.

28. The Steering Board requests the High Representative to take up the matter with the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to assist them in reaching an agreement. If the matter is not solved by 1 August 1997, the Steering Board will take further steps upon the recommendation of the High Representative, including to deal only with those ambassadors of Bosnia and Herzegovina who represent the new authorities of the united country.

29. The Steering Board also expects a quick decision on the common flag of Bosnia and Herzegovina. After 1 September 1997, the Steering Board will recommend to all countries and organisations that existing flags and symbols will not be recognised as the flags and symbols of the country unless so decided as laid down in the Constitution.

30. As part of the Quick Start Package, the High Representative, in co-operation with the Council of Europe, has presented a proposal for laws on citizenship and passports based on the Peace Agreement and international practice.

31. The Steering Board calls for the speedy approval of these laws by the Council of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly. If the laws are not in place by 1 August 1997, the High Representative should recommend action to the Steering Board.

*Co-operation on War Crimes*

32. Co-operation with the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia remains a key part of the process of peace implementation. Although co-operation has improved, the failure to hand over indicted persons remains a matter of grave concern.

33. This applies to Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular Republika Srpska and parts of the Federation, as well as to the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

34. Of particular concern in this respect is the situation in Republika Srpska, where Mr. Radovan Karadzic continues to influence the political decision-making of the Entity in violation of both the letter and the spirit of previous undertakings.

35. This cannot be accepted. The Steering Board is ready to consider further recommendations from the High Representative on measures which could be taken. It notes the proposal of the High Representative that persons co-operating with, or condoning the role of, indicted persons should be denied visas to travel abroad.

36. The Steering Board supports the High Representative's recommendation in his recent report to the UNSC to deny new economic assistance to those municipalities which continue to tolerate indicted persons working in a public capacity, and will follow this up.

37. The Steering Board is equally concerned with the failure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia to honour their obligations. The presence - either permanent or transitory - of indicted persons on their territory, including a number from Bosnia and Herzegovina, is bound to affect adversely their overall relations with the international community. These countries are also reminded that they are obliged and expected to use their close ties and economic support to help obtain the surrender of indictees, especially in Republika Srpska and the predominantly Croat areas of the Federation.

38. The Steering Board expects the authorities of the Federation and Republika Srpska to implement fully the measures agreed in Rome on 18 February 1996 (the Rules of the Road) by refraining from arresting, or detaining, war crimes suspects except in cases in which ICTY has reviewed the file and found sufficient evidence under international standards.

*The Necessity of Economic Reform*

39. Without fundamental economic reform which moves away from the practice of a bureaucratic, socialist economic system, the economic and social issues of Bosnia and Herzegovina can never be solved and conditions for the return of refugees will remain problematic.

40. The Steering Board welcomes agreements on all key elements of the economic parts of the Quick Start Package, including the Central Bank Law and the Customs and Foreign Trade Laws. It calls on the Presidency and Parliamentary Assembly to approve these decisions speedily.

41. A Donors' Conference for Bosnia and Herzegovina is planned to be held in Brussels on 24 June 1997 at senior official level. The Steering Board urged continued strong international support for humanitarian and inter-Entity infrastructure projects. For the conference to be held as planned Bosnia and Herzegovina has to reach agreement with the International Monetary Fund. In any case, success at the Donors' Conference and the dispersal of pledged funds depend on progress towards fulfilment of the obligations of the Peace Agreement.

42. The Steering Board urged the authorities of the Entities, in particular, to establish a sound legal and political basis for an open and dynamic free market economy.

43. Of particular importance are the speedy adoption by the Entities of sound schemes for privatisation, and full respect for the single integrated economic space of the country as laid down in the Constitution. The opening up of the country for trade and contact, across all its borders and in all directions, is essential. The Steering Board demands the immediate and unconditional opening of the full border between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia.

44. The Steering Board asks the High Representative to proceed speedily with the preparation of the second package of essential legislation to be presented to the authorities of the country. This should include legislation on frequency management and telecommunications, airspace management, permanent election law, immigration law and permanent law on customs and customs tariffs. The authorities are urged to adopt the package before the meeting of the Peace Implementation Council in December 1997.

*Conditionality for Refugee Return*

45. Refugees and displaced persons have the right to return to their pre-war homes in a peaceful, orderly and phased manner. Unless and until there is a process under way to enable them to do so, there will be continued instability in Bosnia. Although all the authorities have agreed, as part of the Peace Agreement, to support these returns, none have abided by it in practice. International economic aid is conditional upon compliance with, and implementation of, the Peace Agreement.

46. In particular, assistance for housing and local infrastructure should be dependent on the acceptance of return. The international community is prepared to provide resources to those areas which welcome the return of refugees and displaced persons and co-operate actively in integrating them into local communities. Priority will be given to those municipalities receptive to minority returns and UNHCR's "Open Cities" project. The Reconstruction and Refugee Task Force, chaired by the Office of the High Representative, is asked to intensify its co-ordinating role in this respect.

47. The Steering Board is concerned that Serb refugees must be permitted to return to Drvar. Bosniac authorities need to take concrete steps to facilitate full return to Sarajevo, and Bosniacs and Croats must be able to return to their homes in Brcko, Banja Luka and numerous other cities. All returnees must be allowed to live free of harrassment.

48. Of particular importance is the obligation of both the Federation and Republika Srpska to amend existing property laws. The current laws place insurmountable legal barriers in the path of return, effectively blocking hundreds of thousands of pre-war occupants from returning to their homes.

49. The Steering Board calls for the Federation and Republika Srpska to amend their property laws in order to make the full implementation of Annex 7 of the Peace Agreement possible. International support for housing reconstruction should be conditional upon fulfilment of these obligations.

***Public Security***

50. Democratic and restructured police forces are essential for the peace process to succeed. The Steering Board expects both Republika Srpska and the Federation to accelerate the process of restructuring their police forces in line with the principles and plans prepared under the guidance of the UN International Police Task Force. The Steering Board fully supports these principles and plans, and agrees that funding should be sought as proposed at the Dublin Conference. It further agreed to continue efforts to provide the full, authorised ceiling of qualified, experienced monitors to the IPTF.

51. Republika Srpska, in particular, is behind in its commitments to restructuring. The Steering Board insists that Republika Srpska implements immediately a restructuring programme in co-operation with the IPTF and according to the guidelines of the Commissioner.

52. The Steering Board insists that the authorities, in both Entities, comply with the conclusions drawn from the UN IPTF reports related to violent incidents in Mostar, Brcko, Gajevi and Drvar.

53. The Steering Board expects the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to take further measures to provide the necessary control and security, based on democratic procedures, to address smuggling, terrorism and crime along its international borders. It calls for co-operation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and its neighbours on these issues.

54. The Steering Board welcomes the additional 120 monitors, authorised by the UNSC, who will significantly assist the investigation of human rights violations. It encourages the IPTF to deploy these monitors to identify individual violators, particularly members of police forces, and to recommend appropriate action.

*Human Rights*

55. The Steering Board is deeply concerned with a pattern of discrimination and harassment of ethnic minorities throughout the country as described in the reports by the Federation Ombudsmen and the Human Rights Co-ordination Centre of the Office of the High Representative, and with the complacency of responsible authorities in the face of such abuses. The police not only frequently condone violence on ethnic and political grounds, they are often responsible for violations themselves. The legal system remains inadequate to meet this challenge; efforts to ensure adherence to the rule of law must be a priority.

56. The Steering Board demands the governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Federation and Republika Srpska to fulfil their obligations under the Peace Agreement by ensuring full co-operation with the Commission for Real Property Claims and the Commission on Human Rights and providing for effective implementation and enforcement of their decisions.

57. On this matter, the Steering Board asks the High Representative to report to the Peace Implementation Council on compliance with the conclusions of the report submitted to the Florence meeting, and to recommend specific action.

*Freedom of Movement, Trade and Communications*

58. Freedom of movement throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina is a key provision of the Peace Agreement and the Constitution. No authorities have the right to impede the full freedom of movement of persons, goods, services and capital.

59. The Steering Board fully endorses the IPTF Checkpoint Policy ensuring that no illegal checkpoints impede freedom of movement. It fully supports the determination of the High Representative, the UN-IPTF and Commander SFOR to take the steps necessary to enforce compliance with this policy.

60. Action must be taken to establish a uniform system of car registration throughout the country. After 1 January 1998 only cars with the new number plates, agreed by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, should be allowed to cross international borders.

61. The telephone systems of the country must be rapidly integrated. The Steering Board expects all authorities to co-operate fully with the efforts and programmes of the European Commission and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to this effect. If the authorities do not co-operate fully, the High Representative is asked to recommend appropriate measures to the Steering Board to ensure compliance. As a result of these efforts, integration of the telephone systems will start by 15 July 1997 at the latest.

62. The Steering Board noted that airspace over Bosnia and Herzegovina has been opened to civil air traffic above 33,000 feet. It welcomes the current negotiations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia, under the auspices of Eurocontrol, to apply an appropriate payment mechanism.

63. The Steering Board insists on the need for further progress to be made towards working collectively, and on an equal basis, in the Civil Aviation Authority and opening the regional airports of Mostar, Tuzla and Banja Luka. The Steering Board insists that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina ensure that the Civil Aviation Authority is reconstituted and operational by the end of July. If this action is not undertaken, the Steering Board will recommend that international aviation authorities cease to co-operate with the existing body.

***Local elections***

64. The Steering Board underlined the importance of the municipal elections to be held 13-14 September 1997 and welcomed OSCE initiatives to ensure high standards and comprehensive supervision of the electoral process. That process will not be complete until elected officials have been installed, and to this effect the Steering Board endorses the concept for election implementation agreed between the OSCE Mission and the Office of the High Representative.

65. The Steering Board is deeply concerned with the funding shortfalls for the OSCE Mission and fully supports efforts to meet the requests of the Personal Representative, former Foreign Minister Agnelli. The Steering Board fully endorsed the actions recommended by the Election Appeals Sub-Commission in response to efforts to disrupt or manipulate the voters' registration process.

*Media*

66. The promotion of independent media is an essential step for developing democratic institutions. It will be of particular importance in preparing the ground for the elections, in enabling wider access to information and promoting political pluralism. The Steering Board therefore stressed the need to encourage independent publishers and broadcasters.

67. It specifically called for governments to support the second stage of development of the Open Broadcast Network as the best prospect for achieving cross-entity broadcasting and developing a television network under Bosnian management.

68. The aim is to ensure that, by the end of the year, every sizable community in every part of Bosnia has access to independent radio or television reporting. The Steering Board calls upon those governments sponsoring the Open Broadcast Network urgently to draw up a plan to this effect, to be co-ordinated by the Office of the High Representative.

69. The authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Entities and the common institutions will be expected to give every possible form of practical assistance with respect to licences, frequencies, free access by the High Representative to news media and the ability of the OBN and other independent media to broadcast.

70. The Steering Board is concerned that the media has not done enough to promote freedom of expression and reconciliation. It declared that the High Representative has the right to curtail or suspend any media network or programme whose output is in persistent and blatant contravention of either the spirit or letter of the Peace Agreement.

***Brcko Supervision***

71. The Steering Board received the first report on the situation in the Brcko area from the Deputy High Representative and Supervisor Mr. Robert William Farrand.

72. The announced procedures for return, which should take into account the interests both of those wishing to return and those wishing to remain, were fully endorsed.

73. The Steering Board expressed its deep concern with the failure of Republika Srpska authorities to safeguard the freedom of movement in the area.

74. Republika Srpska is expected to initiate immediately the process of certification of its police in Brcko.

75. The Steering Board stressed that full co-operation with the Supervisor and his decisions, as well as adherence to all parts of the Peace Agreement, is an essential obligation for both of the Entities, and recalled that any final award by the Arbiter would take fully into account the compliance of the authorities.

76. The Steering Board noted that the Brcko Supervisor, in accordance with the Arbitration Award of 14 February 1997, and following free and fair local elections, "should... issue such regulations and orders as may be appropriate to enhance democratic government and a multi-ethnic administration in the Town of Brcko."

77. The Steering Board noted that the electoral process, beginning with voter registration, will thus create the basis for democratic government and a multi-ethnic administration in Brcko. It is left to the Supervisor to take the necessary measures, based on democratic principles, to ensure that these ends are achieved in the way envisaged by the Award.

78. In order to facilitate the return of refugees and displaced persons to that part of the original Brcko municipality now in Republika Srpska, as well as to safeguard the interests of displaced persons presently in the area, repair of existing housing and infrastructure as well the construction of new housing is essential. The Steering Board urged this to be taken into account at the Donors' Conference.

79. The Steering Board strongly censured the Federation for its failure to co-operate in the Brcko process, particularly for having blocked economic assistance to Brcko, hindering the return of refugees through its failure to accept agreed procedures, and withholding its support for the electoral process.

*Succession Negotiations*

80. The Steering Board received a report from the Special Negotiator for Succession Issues, Sir Arthur Watts.

81. It noted that a settlement of the numerous succession issues after the break-up of former Yugoslavia is regarded by the international financial institutions to be a prerequisite for the normalisation of their relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Economic resources which would, directly or indirectly, be released by a settlement of the succession issues would be of great help to all the countries of the region.

82. The international community has, by the appointment by the High Representative of a Special Negotiator, been ready to assist the parties in their collective effort to reach a settlement, and for the time being is willing to continue this assistance.

83. This, however, is meaningful only if the five states concerned are willing to make the substantial compromises necessary to reach an agreement.

84. The Steering Board is concerned that, so far, this has not fully been the case. It urges the states urgently to seek an agreement on outstanding succession issues within the framework put forward by the Special Negotiator, and to agree, as a first and immediate step, upon certain specific action without waiting for an overall settlement to be reached.

*Civilian Funding Shortfalls*

85. The Steering Board is concerned with the funding shortfalls for parts of civilian implementation. In particular, this concerns the activities of the Commission for Real Property Claims and the Commission on Human Rights, including the Human Rights Chamber and the Ombudsperson, which are parts of the constitutional structure of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

86. Immediate action is required by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to provide for the funding of these commissions through the budget of the common institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

87. To enable these commissions to continue their work, the Steering Board will provide and will seek from others supplementary financial assistance for an interim period.

*High Representative*

88. The Steering Board concluded that the decision in the Peace Agreement to appoint a High Representative, and his decision to establish the Office of the High Representative, have proven essential to the peace process.

89. The Steering Board praised Mr Carl Bildt for his outstanding performance as High Representative in the period following the signature of the Peace Agreement. Significant progress has been made in the many areas critical to the implementation of the Peace Agreement; none of it would have been possible without the active efforts of the High Representative.

90. The Steering Board nominated Mr. Carlos Westendorp to serve as new High Representative from 20 June 1997. It gives him its wholehearted support and asks the United Nations Security Council to endorse his nomination.

91. The Steering Board urged all the members of the Peace Implementation Council to continue to support the work of the High Representative through the secondment of personnel to his office.

*Consolidation Period*

92. The Steering Board asks the High Representative to supply for its consideration a list of shortcomings or non-compliance by the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the implementation of the Peace Agreement, and to recommend specific action to be taken by the international community in each case.

93. The Steering Board accepted the invitation to hold the next full meeting of the Peace Implementation Council in Germany in December 1997.

*Concluding Remark*

94. The Steering Board recorded its sincere thanks to the Portuguese government for hosting and facilitating this meeting.

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Agenda item 58
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 4 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 26 May and 3 June 1997.

On 26 May, two Turkish F-16 jet fighter planes violated the Nicosia flight information region and national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus. From 1547 to 1611 hours, the planes, flying from a north-westerly direction, entered the flight information region of Nicosia and then flew over the northern part of the Kyrenia area.

On 3 June, five Turkish F-4 military planes, entering from a north-westerly direction between the hours of 1006 and 1443, once again violated the Nicosia flight information region and national airspace of the Republic, flying over the area of Kyrenia and then exited in a north-easterly direction.

Such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region and the airspace of the Republic are in violation of international air traffic rules and seriously endanger civil aviation flights over Cyprus. At the same time, they heighten tension in Cyprus and are in contravention of the provisions of repeated Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, which state that such overflights increase political tension on the island and undermine efforts towards achieving a final settlement.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to protest strongly against the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of international law.

the Charter of the United Nations and relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

Moreover, it should be pointed out that these violations, which heighten tension in Cyprus, take place at a most sensitive phase of the efforts to resume the intercommunal talks under your auspices.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 58 of the fifty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

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